British Waterways

ACTIVELY MANAGING SAFETY

An extract from Our Plan for the Future 2005-2009

We actively manage safety. At this stoppage on the Stratford-upon-Avon Canal at Lowsonford, waterway operative Jason Watson fits a new lock gate collar. ▲

Safety is our top priority in everything we do, for our visitors, neighbours, people and contractors.

We are committed to:

- becoming recognised externally as a class leader in health and safety management. This will be demonstrated by our standing in the Dti/Construction Excellency figures and our latest position is shown over leaf
- promoting a culture of excellence and adopting best practice in health and safety management
- reducing safety incidents to an acceptable level. For incidents that are reportable to the Health & Safety Executive that acceptable level is zero
- training and developing our people so that they work more safely and are equipped to deal with emergencies effectively
- implementing and maintaining excellent safety management systems
- ensuring all boats on our waterways have a Boat Safety Scheme certificate
- ensuring our network is safe and reliable to use

Specific Targets & Progress

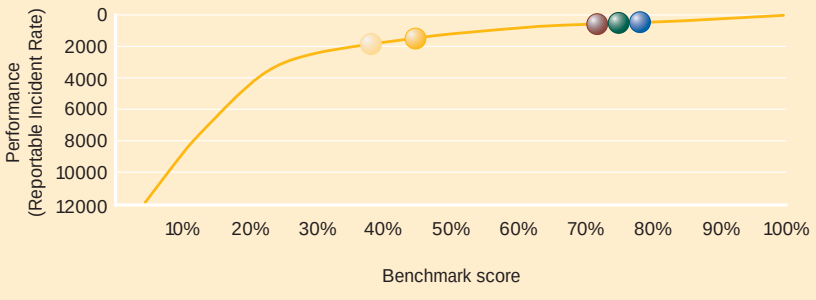
	Targets	Progress
Number of reportable staff incidents*	Zero	2003/04: 47 2004/05: 30
Percentage of all principal asset inspections completed	By 2008: 100%	2003/04: 74% 2004/05: 83.3%
Condition of assets improved We grade the condition of our assets A-E, A being good, E being poor.	Graded D 2009/10: 8% Graded E 2009/10: 2%	Graded D 2003/04: 21.2% 2004/05: 19.8% Graded E 2003/04: 6.2% 2004/05: 4.9%

* we currently do not include figures for contractors in our 'reportable incidents'; it is our intention that future reports on 'reportable incidents' will include our smaller contractors

Safety Milestones

Safety Milestones	Date
Achieve third quartile performance of Dti construction industry benchmark (see graph below)	2006
Achieve fourth quartile performance of Dti construction industry benchmark (see graph below)	2007
Win our first RoSPA gold safety award (three successive years of good performance)	2007
Eliminate our statutory maintenance arrears	2012
Demonstrate through surveys that a safety culture has been integrated into all business activities	Ongoing
Prevent a new backlog of safety-related maintenance works forming	Ongoing

Construction Industry Safety Benchmark Data



This graph shows us and our main omnibus contractors, AWG, Nuttalls and Galliford Try.

If you like to know more about how our plans could affect you, please visit our website at www.britishwaterways.co.uk/plan